

20 Peterson Road
Neshanic Station, NJ 08853

July 24, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Representative of the Food and Drug Administration,

This letter is in reference to the three Docket Numbers: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; and 97P-0197.

Each year the United States' egg industry force molts, which intentionally starves up to 14 days millions of hens to manipulate egg production. Forced molting should be prohibited. This practice of forced molting is so stressful it destroys the hens' immune systems and predisposing the birds and their eggs to Salmonella poison.

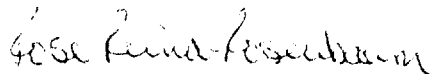
Public health concerns are being raised by highly stressful forced molting practices. Extended starvation and water deprivation practices lead to increased shedding of Salmonella by laying hens subjected to these practices. It is the primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs and the consumption of eggs.

The Food and Drug Administration must do more than put bacteria warning labels on egg. The FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices, such as forced molting, that injure human health.

The Food and Drug Administration was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. I request that this petition be given very prompt and serious attention.

Every action we do to improve other living beings lives can make a difference.
Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rose Reina-Rosenbaum

97P-0197

C7



Ms. Rose Reina-Rosenbaum
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C 6

See Docket Number/Item Code: 96P-0418/C 6
97P-0197/C 7